8071-103 (OPP052118US)

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application. In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement set forth in the February 13, 2008 Office Action, Applicant elects for prosecution, Group I including claims 1-20.

As set forth in M.P.E.P. § 803, if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though the application contains claims to independent or distinct inventions.

While the apparatus and method in claims 1-27 may be distinct for the reasons set forth by the Examiner, it is respectfully submitted that simultaneous examination will not present an undue burden.

Under such circumstances, the Examiner is encouraged to maintain all claims in the same application (See M.P.E.P. § 803).

An early and favorable consideration of this application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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